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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7877  
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0173  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0121  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 2959  
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 0175  
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 2771  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0809  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0132  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 0785  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0216  
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 0483  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0183  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0237  
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0103  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0165  
RHMFISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
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STATE FOR WHA/BSC, PM

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/16/2015  
TAGS: [MARR](#) [MASS](#) [PARM](#) [VE](#) [CI](#)  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR INFORMS SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY  
OFFICIAL OF CHANGE IN U.S. ARMS TRANSFER POLICY TOWARDS  
VENEZUELA

REF: STATE 207628

Classified By: Ambassador Craig Kelly. Reasons: 1.4 (b and d).

[¶1.](#) (S) The Ambassador met with Foreign Ministry Director General for External Affairs Carlos Portales on November 16 to deliver reftel points. The Ambassador noted the U.S. continued to be concerned about the destabilizing effect Venezuela's arms acquisitions could have on the region. As a result, the U.S. had changed its arms transfer policy for Venezuela and asked that the GOC adopt similar restrictions.

[¶2.](#) (S) Portales said Chilean policy did not explicitly prohibit the sale or transfer of lethal and non-lethal material to Venezuela. However, Portales noted he had not heard of any such transfers occurring during his four-plus years as the number three at the Foreign Ministry, adding "we simply do not sell such items to Venezuela."

[¶3.](#) (S) Post intends to deliver a similar message to senior Ministry of Defense officials at the earliest possible opportunity.  
KELLY